



State of California
Respiratory Care Board

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Inquiry: We have a question about RCP's setting up Hemodynamic Lines with Heparinized IV solution for flush. As it stands now, our hospital policy states two registered nurses will double check and verify by initials the Heparin concentration for flush lines even though it is a premixed bag. Could two RCP's check the premixed Heparin flush bag for hemodynamic lines? Or could they check with an RN?

Response: Licensed Practitioners can check premixed Heparin flush bags for hemodynamic lines – Classification 1B. (Not verbatim from the Respiratory Care Practice Act but, in the Respiratory Care Board's judgment, highly inferred and allowed.)

Cross checking of these premixed bags between licensed practitioners (i.e. Nurse to Therapist) references the intent of the practice act. It recognizes the existence of overlapping functions between physicians and surgeons, registered nurses, physical therapists, respiratory care practitioners, and other licensed health care personnel to permit additional sharing of functions within organized health care systems (3701, Article 1, General Provisions). As such, the onus is on the organized health care system to determine and institute appropriate policies, practice guidelines, training and competencies that would provide this function in a manner that would be safe when administered to the public.

Reference # 2002-C-32